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ALWAYS FOR LIBERTY, AND THE PUBLICK GOOD.

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THIS BOOK BELONGS to the STATE LIBRARY VIRGINIA

PHILADELPHIA, *Dec.* 16.

A letter from general L E E *to general* BURGOYNE.

CAMP on Proſpect hill, *Dec.* 1, 1775.

DEAR SIR,

AS I am juſt informed you are ready to embark for England, I cannot refrain from once more treſpaſſing on your patience. An oportunity is now preſented of immortaliſing yourſelf, as the ſaviour of your country, The whole Britiſh empire ſtands tottering on the brink of ruin, and you have it in your power to prevent the fatal cataſtrophe; but it will admit of no delay. For heaven's ſake, avail yourſelf of the precious moment; put an end to the deluſion; exert the voice of a brave virtuous citizen, and tell the people at home that they muſt immediately reſcind all their impolitick, iniquitous, tyrannical, murderous acts; that they muſt overturn the whole frantick ſyſtem, or that they are undone. You aſk me, in your letter, if it is independence at which the Americans aim? I anſwer, no; the idea never entered a ſingle American's head, until a moſt intolerable oppreſſion forced it upon them. All they required was to remain maſters of their own property, and be governed by the ſame equitable laws which they had enjoyed from the firſt formation of the colonies. The ties of connexion which bound them to their parent country were ſo dear to them, that he who would have ventured to have touched them would have been conſidered as the moſt impious of mortals; but theſe ſacred ties, the ſame men who have violated or baffled the moſt precious laws and rights of the people at home, diſſipated or refuſed to account for their treaſures, tarniſhed the glory, and annihilated the importance of the nation, theſe ſacred ties, I ſay, ſo dear to every American, Bute and his Tory adminiſtration are now rending aſunder.

You aſk, whether it is the weight of taxes of which they complain? I anſwer, no; it is the principle they combat, and they would be guilty in the eyes of God and men, of the preſent world, and all poſterity, did they not reject it: For, if it were admitted, they would have nothing that they could call their own. They would be in a worſe condition than the wretched ſlaves in the Weſt India iſlands, whoſe little *peculium* has ever been eſteemed inviolate. But wherefore ſhould I dwell on this? Is not the caſe of Ireland the ſame with their's? They are ſubordinate to the Britiſh empire, they are ſubordinate to the parliament of Great Britain, but they tax themſelves. Why, as the caſe is ſimilar, do not you begin with them? But you know, mr. Burgoyne, audacious as the miniſtry are, they dare not attempt it. There is one part of your letter which, I confeſs, I do not thoroughly underſtand. If I recollect right (for I, unfortunately, have not the letter by me) you ſay, that if the priviſege of taxing themſelves is what the Americans claim, the conteſt is at an end. You ſurely cannot allude to the poſitions of North; it is impoſſible that you ſhould not think with me, and all mankind, that theſe propoſitions are no more or leſs than adding to a moſt abominable oppreſſion a more abominable inſult. But to recur to the queſtion of America's aiming at independence. Do any inſtructions, of any one of the provinces, to their repreſentatives or delegates, furniſh the leaſt ground for this ſuſpicion? On the contrary, do they not all breathe the ſtrongeſt attachment and filial piety for their parent country! But if ſhe diſcards all the natural tenderneſs of a mother, and acts the part of a cruel ſtepdame, it muſt naturally be expected that their affections ceaſe. The miniſtry leave them no alternative, *aut ſervire, aut alienari jubent;* it is in human nature, it is a moral obligation, to adopt the latter. But the fatal ſeparation has not yet taken place; and yourſelf, your ſingle ſelf, my friend, may perhaps prevent it. Upon the miniſtry, I am afraid, you can make no impreſſion; for, to repeat a hacknied quotation,

----------They are in blood
Stepp'd in ſo far, that, ſhould they wade no more,
To return would be as tedious as go o'er.

But if you will at once break off all connexions with theſe pernicious men, if you will wave all conſideration but the ſalvation of your country, Great Britain may ſtand as much indebted to general Burgoyne as Rome was to her Camillus. Do not, I entreat you, my dear ſir, think this the mad rhapſody of an enthuſiaſt, nor the cant of a factious deſigning man; for in theſe colours, I am told, I am frequently painted. I ſwear by all that's ſacred, as I hope for comfort and honour in this world, and to avoid miſery in the next, that I moſt earneſtly and devoutly love my native country; that I wiſh the ſame happy relation to ſubſiſt, for ages, betwixt her and her children, which has raiſed the wide arch of her empire to ſo ſtupendous and enviable a height; but, at the ſame time, I avow, that if the parliament and people ſhould be depraved enough to ſupport any longer the preſent miniſtry in their infernal ſcheme, my zeal and reverence for the rights of humanity are ſo much greater than my fondneſs for any particular ſpot, even the place of my nativity, that, had I any influence in the councils of America, I would adviſe not to heſitate a ſingle inſtance, *but deciſively to cut the Gordian knot now beſmeared with civil blood.*

This I know is ſtrong emphatick language, and might paſs with men, who are ſtrangers to the flame which the love of liberty is capable of lighting up in the human breaſt, for a proof of my inſanity; but you, ſir, you (unleſs I have miſtaken you from the beginning) well conceive that a man in his ſober ſenſes may poſſeſs ſuch feelings. In my ſober ſenſes, therefore, permit me once more moſt earneſtly to entreat and conjure you to exert your whole force, energy, and talents, to ſtop the miniſtry in this their headlong career. If you labour in vain (as, I muſt repeat, I think will be the caſe) addreſs yourſelf to the people at large. By adopting this method, I am ſo ſanguine as to aſſure myſelf of your ſucceſs; and your publick character will be as illuſtrious as your perſonal qualities are amiable, to all who intimately know you. By your means, the coloniſts will long continue the farmers, planters, and ſhipwrights, of Great Britain; but if the preſent courſe is perſiſted in, an internal divorce muſt inevitably take place. As to the idea of ſubduing them into ſervitude, and indemnify yourſelves for the expenſe, you muſt be convinced, long before this, of its abſurdity.

I ſhould not perhaps be extravagant, if I advanced that all the ſhips of the world would be too few to tranſport force ſufficient to conquer three millions of people unanimouſly determined to ſacrifice every thing to liberty; but, if it were poſſible, the victory would not be leſs ruinous than the defeat. You would only deſtroy your own ſtrength. No revenue can poſſibly be extracted out of this country. The army of placemen might be increaſed; but her circuitous commerce, founded on perfect freedom, which alone can furniſh riches to the metropolis, would fall to the ground. But the dignity of Great Britain, it ſeems, is at ſtake. Would you, ſir, if in the heat of paſſion you had ſtruck a ſimple drummer of your regiment, and afterwards diſcovered that you had done it unjuſtly, think it any forfeiture of your dignity to acknowledge the wrong? No (I am well acquainted with your diſpoſition) you would aſk him pardon, at the head of your regiment.

I ſhall now conclude (if you will excuſe the pedantry) with a ſentence of Latin: *Juſtum eſt bellum quibus neceſſarium, et pia arma quibus nulla, niſi in armis, relinquitur ſpes.* I moſt ſincerely wiſh you a quick and proſperous voyage, and that your happineſs and glory may be equal to the idea I have of your merits; as I am, with the greateſt truth and affection, yours.

C. L E E.

To his excellency WILLIAM TRYON, *eſq.*

S I R,

AS you have been pleaſed to addreſs yourſelf, in a publick manner, to the inhabitants of this province at large, an apology can hardly be neceſſary for the freedom I uſe in conveying my ſentiments to you on the intereſting contents of your letter, in which, as an individual, I feel myſelf deeply concerned.

The rectitude of your excellency's conduct, in your official capacity, has deſervedly acquired you an eminent degree of popularity and eſteem among all orders of men; and, on this account, every ſtep you take is an object of peculiar attention. Even what in another might ſeem offenſive and exceptionable, in you is regarded with the moſt indulgent partiality. I

ſhould with regret ſee you embrace any meaſure which might tend to alienate the affections of the people, and ſully the laurels you have reaped from your former virtuous adminiſtration.

With reſpect to your letter under conſideration, permit me to intimate to you, that unleſs it be a mere formality, ariſing from the neceſſity of your ſtation, it is, at leaſt, a very indiſcreet proceeding, and can anſwer no other end than to leſſen you in the general eſtimation. We have too good an opinion of your underſtanding to imagine you can ſeriouſly believe there is any thing conciliating, or looking towards an accommodation, in the reſolution you mention; a reſolution, the terms whereof are diametrically oppoſite to every principle of liberty, and which has been recommended to us by the moſt *indelicate* and *indecent* of all arguments---the point of the bayonet. We muſt confeſs to you, that we are as yet in a ſtate of too much ſimplicity to underſtand rightly that ſpecies of kindneſs which is evidenced by carnage and devaſtation.

Our intereſts we conſider as inſeparably united with thoſe of our ſiſter colonies. In union we place our ſtrength, in diſunion we ſee our deſtruction. We have alſo the greateſt confidence in the judgment and integrity of thoſe who are intruſted with the management of publick affairs; and we can never think of deſerting the common cauſe, and violating the moſt ſacred engagements, by venturing to decide on what is properly a ſubject of general determination, and by expoſing ourſelves to the ſnares and entanglements of a ſeparate treaty. The neceſſity of union we have been taught by the ſagacious lord North himſelf, who declared in the Houſe of Commons, in ſupport of the motion, that *if one link of the chain could be broken the whole would inevitably fall to pieces*, and that *divide et impera* (divide and domineer) is a maxim both juſt and wiſe in government. For this inſtance of plain-dealing we are very much indebted to his lordſhip; and if we do not profit by it, we ſhall exhibit to the world a laſting monument of unexampled ſtupidity.

We would not wiſh to ſuppoſe that you would offer ſuch violence to your "affection for this colony," or bring ſuch an indelible ſtain upon your own honour, as to be capable of ſtooping to the mean taſk of promoting thoſe flagitious and dark deſigns avowed by the miniſter; and yet there are unfortunately ſome appearances, which, in a people leſs ingenuous than we are, might too eaſily beget a ſuſpicion of the kind.

It is incumbent upon us to thank your excellency for the genteel and polite language in which you are pleaſed to charge us with diſloyalty and rebellion. To ſay we have traiterouſly conſpired againſt his majeſty's crown and dignity, and wantonly trampled upon the laws of the ſtate, according to the ſtale jargon of the times, would be far more harſh and ill-ſounding than the ſmooth harmonious expreſſions you have adopted. Only to tell us we "withhold our allegiance from our ſovereign, and our obedience from the parent country," is civil enough, all things conſidered. But, at the ſame time, we beg leave to aſſure you, that you have been deceived as to the fact; and that, though we have been forced to ſtray from the ordinary forms of decorum, we deſire nothing more than to be ſpeedily reſtored to the good old way, in which we trod, for almoſt two centuries, to the mutual ſatisfaction and advantage of England and America. I know not how you can be unacquainted with this truth, that it is in the power of adminiſtration, in a moment, to re-eſtabliſh the tranquillity and ſecurity of the empire, which they alone have interrupted, by relinquiſhing thoſe attempts which are ſubverſive of our rights as a free people, and by reinſtating us in the ſame happy ſituation in which the concluſion of the late war found us. Then ſhall Britain reap a rich harveſt of opulence and power, the fruits of our loyalty and attachment; and we ſhall again flouriſh, under the foſtering wings of a *reformed* parent.

I wiſh, however, that your excellency had thought proper to explain what you meant by allegiance to the king, and obedience to the parent country. If by the former you intend an unconditional obſequiouſneſs to the will of the prince, or of his miniſters, even though repugnant to the conſtitution, and by the latter an abſolute ſubmiſſion to the laws of parliament in all caſes, we muſt confeſs it is our glory to withhold both the one and the other. We acknowledge no obligations which are inconſiſtent with our rights and privileges as men, and freemen. I am, with all due reſpect, your excellency's moſt humble ſervant, A CITIZEN.

Extract of a letter from Rotterdam, *dated September* 4.

"All the United Provinces do wiſh heartily that a bleſſed peace may ſoon be reſtored to your colonies, on honourable terms; and ſo doth Germany, for rice and tobacco are riſen to ſuch a high price that common people are not able to purchaſe either of thoſe articles."

Extract of a letter from London, *Sept.* 20.

"You are quite right in thinking me narrow in my political notions. However, it is with pleaſure I can inform you my opinion is very different to what it was. I now ſee much clearer that the Americans are right than ever I did, when I ſaw them wrong. If I was now in Philadelphia, the firſt buſineſs I ſhould look after would be to join ſome company and learn the military exerciſe. The preſent miniſtry are certainly a ſet of the moſt abandoned wretches. I ſincerely wiſh all their diabolical ſchemes may be fruſtrated; which I have not the leaſt doubt of, if wiſe and prudent meaſures are obſerved on your ſide. There are now in London *ten* for America for *one* againſt it.

"An aſſociation is now on foot in Spitalfields for learning the military exerciſe, and upwards of 100 are joined in one company; they have been heard to ſay publickly, that they never intend to fight againſt America, but aim at another mark. I doubt not but, before another opportunity offers, to write to you that 10,000 men will be under arms in this metropolis, in defence of *your glorious cauſe*."

By capt. Harvey, arrived here from St. Kitt's, we learn that on the 17th of October laſt a very hard gale of wind began at Baſſeterre, and continued for three days, during which a number of veſſels were drove aſhore at that place, Sandy Point, &c. Many of them, it was thought, could not be got off; but, happily, no lives were loſt.

Capt. Harvey alſo informs us, that on the firſt of November a terrible fire broke out in the town of St. George, in Grenada, which continued burning till the 8th, when all the houſes, except a few at a place called the Cannaſh, were conſumed, together with their proviſions. This account was confirmed, and believed, at St. Kitt's; from whence they were ſending veſſels, with neceſſaries, for the relief of the unhappy ſufferers.

LONDON, *September* 20.

Part of the inſtructions from the freeholders of the county of Middleſex, *to the right hon.* John Wilkes *and* John Glynn, *eſqrs. knights of the ſhire for that county, agreed on at a meeting*, Monday, *Sept.* 25, 1775, *at the* Mile End *aſſembly room.*

WE particularly inſtruct you to exert yourſelves in preventing the farther effuſion of the blood of our *innocent* fellow-ſubjects in America, and to put a ſpeedy end to the preſent *unnatural* and *ruinous* civil war. We alſo deſire you to uſe your unwearied endeavours to aſſiſt and ſupport the repreſentatives of the city of London for obtaining a redreſs of every obnoxious and unconſtitutional act, and in bringing to the juſtice of their country the adviſers of ſuch nefarious meaſures as have been adopted during the laſt 14 years, tending to ſubvert the conſtitution of this country, and which we are convinced will very ſoon effect the ruin and deſtruction of the Britiſh empire.

The lord mayor has received a letter from the *Congreſs*, ſuperſcribed *On the ſervice of the united colonies*, directed *To the right hon. the lord mayor and livery of the city of London*, and below, CONGRESS, *Philadelphia*, JOHN HANCOCK, which his lordſhip intends to ſubmit to the livery on Friday next at the common-hall.

Monſ. Voltaire is daily expected at Paris, he having obtained permiſſion from the king to ſpend the reſt of his days in his native country.

Yeſterday admiral Shuldham was at court, and took leave of his majeſty, he being in a few days to ſet out for Boſton, to take the command of the fleet there.

The following advertiſement from the general poſt office appears in all the London papers of this evening: "A mail will be "deſpatched from hence on Wedneſday "next for New York, and alſo one for "Charleſtown, after which there will be "no regular conveyance for letters from "this office to North America; but whenever a packet may be deſpatched to any "part of that continent, proper notice "will be given"

This morning 600 ſheep were ſent down in a lighter to Deptford, to put on board the ſhips lying there, bound to Boſton, and other ports of America.

Correct copies are ordered to be made out of all the American charters ſeparately, in order to their being produced the next ſeſſions of parliament.

The detachments from Burgoyne's and Elliott's light-horſe being ordered to march to be ready for embarking for Boſton, put black crape upon their ſwords, and paſſed in that truly mournful manner from Kenſington to Brentford; and in their way they met his majeſty, to whom they meant to ſhow that they diſliked and deteſted the unnatural ſervice they were going on.

Moſt of the officers, particularly the field-officers and captains, of the regiments in Ireland ordered to go to America (except thoſe of the 46th) have preſented memorials, ſoliciting leave of abſence, alledging ſickneſs, &c.

However other branches of trade may thrive, the American, Weſt Indian, and African, muſt ſink. The ſudden decay of trade finally produceth every ſpecies of diſorder. The dreadful ſcene at Liverpool is but the beginning of *home* calamities, all chargeable on the miniſtry. This ſcene of horrour and bloodſhed will ſoon, in all probability, be more than equalled at Whitehaven, Glaſgow, and other weſtern ports. And who ſhall ſay that none of thoſe violent ſhakings will ſhake the throne?

Private letters from Corke ſay, that the ſoldiers who are to be ſent to America murmur exceedingly. They are ſo averſe to the ſervice, that moſt of them have declared, if they are forced on board the tranſports, they will take the firſt opportunity to deſert. The letter adds, that this declaration has given great uneaſineſs to the officers.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman of rank near Manchester.

"You aſk a line of politicks from me. Alas! I can only ſincerely lament the miſerable ſtate of publick affairs, and deprecate the miſchiefs and diſtractions that muſt ariſe from the weak, oppreſſive, vindictive ſyſtem of our American politicks. The friends of American freedom, how

ever reſpectable, are out-numbered every where, and the miniſtry ſeem to have the cry in their favour. Toryiſm prevails in this part of the country; and even Jacobites and non-jurors are become loyal, and addreſs the king, witneſs their Mancheſter addreſs. I did not attend this buſineſs, or (as you will believe) ſign the courtly paper, filled as it is with *falſehoods* and *fictitious loyalty*. The propoſed aſſociation has been ſadly managed, their papers diſperſed *only* amongſt the avowed friends of miniſtry with us, who make them the pretext for addreſſing. All the houſes in Mancheſter, who have ever had any commerce with America, refuſed to ſign the addreſs, as *impolitick* and *ungrateful*."

The miniſtry are exerting all their intereſt to procure addreſſes in favour of their meaſures againg America; from the different cities and towns throughout the kingdom.

Bad meaſures may be applauded by bad men; but thoſe who are diſintereſted, and, in ſpite of arbitrary threats, dare ſpeak their minds, declare they think America highly injured, wiſh their brethren on the other ſide the Atlantick a ſpeedy iſſue from their troubles, and thoſe who cauſed them an early impeachment and a publick execution.

An addreſs to his majeſty has been moved for at Aberdeen in Scotland, but goes on more ſlowly there than at either Glaſgow or St. Andrew's, ſo that it is a chance whether it will be carried. A number of reſpectable people are againſt it, as they ſay it cannot be proved that any oppoſition which is carried on is intended againſt the king, but againſt his miniſters, who are as heartily deſpiſed in Scotland as in England.

We hear from Aberdeen in Scotland, that the king's proclamation was read laſt week in due form, but was far from being ſo joyfully received as ſome people expected.

Government have contracted with mr. Mellish to ſupply the troops at Boſton with a very conſiderable number of oxen, and 14,000 ſheep, the largeſt and fatteſt that can be procured. Several of the oxen, and 4000 of the ſheep, are ordered to be ſent over immediately, alive, and the remainder as ſoon as they can be purchaſed.

It is ſaid that the duke of Northumberland has freighted a ſhip for Boſton, with freſh proviſions, for the uſe of lord Percy's regiment.

Boſton is ſaid to be no longer tenable. The government troops will, in conſequence, retire to Long Iſland.

We hear that general Gage, on his arrival in England, is to be created lord Lexington, and baron of Bunker's Hill.

On Sunday evening arrived in town general Gage's lady from Saliſbury, and immediately waited on their majeſties at Kew, where ſhe was moſt graciouſly received, and had a conference for upwards of an hour, after which ſhe returned to town.

The government have contracted with Felix Calvert and Henry Thrale, eſqrs. to furniſh 5000 butts of ſtrong beer each, to be ſhipped with all poſſible deſpatch for the uſe of his majeſty's troops at Boſton. A contract is alſo entered into with mr. Slade, to furniſh 5000 chaldrons of coals; and mr. Duffy, of Tooly ſtreet, a very large quantity of potatoes; and on Monday a quantity of faggots were ſhipped on board ſeveral tranſports at Deptford. Happily there is a very large fleet of colliers in the river, or it is imagined the above extenſive contract would greatly enhance the price of coals, as they are all taken at the market price, which is a ſufficient proof of the neceſſities of government.

Meetings of the freeholders of ſeveral counties, it is ſaid, will be held, in order to determine whether they ſhall give inſtructions to their repreſentatives in parliament, for their conduct, the enſuing ſeſſion, in regard to America.

Thirteen ſurgeons have received orders to embark for Boſton, by the firſt ſhip that ſails for that port.

A letter from Plymouth, dated Sept. 17th, ſays: "This day the tranſport from Boſton came into Catwater, and a few of the men came on ſhore, when hardly ever were ſeen ſuch objects! Some without legs, and others without arms; and their clothes hanging on them like a looſe morning gown, ſo much are they fallen away by ſickneſs and want of proper nouriſhment. There were near 60 women and children on board, widows and children of the men who were ſlain. Some of theſe I have met in the ſtreet, and they exhibit a moſt ſhocking ſpectacle; and the veſſel itſelf, I am told, though a very large one, yet is almoſt intolerable, from the ſtench ariſing from the ſick and wounded, for many of them are hardly cured yet. There are two more tranſports daily expected with invalids, who ſailed from Boſton with the above."

Several young gentlemen, of ſome of the firſt families in England, are gone out to Boſton, in the Biſhop, capt. Willoughby, which ſailed from the river yeſterday, as volunteers to ſerve under general Gage.

Sept. 22. A great quantity of ſmall-arms is now getting ready at the Tower, to be ſhipped for Boſton.

Extract of a letter from Plymouth, *Sept.* 17.

"We learn here, by the ſick and wounded ſoldiers who are landed, that there are not above 2000 ſoldiers, including officers, at Boſton, fit to do duty, and theſe are averſe to the ſervice. They declare, that 60,000 men would not be able to bring the Americans under ſubjection. They farther ſay, that the provincials uſed the priſoners ſo well that moſt of them deſire to continue where they are. All the ſoldiers ſpeak well of the Americans, for their great humanity. In ſhort, many who were againſt the Americans are now in favour of them."

A young nobleman, no leſs amiable for his private than illuſtrious for his publick virtues, has, we hear, declared himſelf a friend to the plan on which the London aſſociation is formed. It is not doubted but an example of this kind will induce ſuch of our nobles as poſſeſs the principles of patriotiſm to lend their aid to a ſcheme in favour of conſtitutional liberty.

By the lateſt advices government have received, there is every reaſon to believe that the Americans, if they have not effected, have yet meditated, the capture of Canada.

Three merchant ſhips, freighted on account of generals Howe, Clinton, Percy, and Burgoyne, laden with live-ſtock, peaſe, flour, and porter, ſailed yeſterday from the river for Boſton.

The hon. admiral Byron will be appointed ſecond in command on the American ſtation.

Extract of a letter from the Hague, *Sept.* 15.

"They write from Hanover, that col. de Scheiter, whoſe exploits laſt war made him well known, has offered to the regency of that electorate to raiſe a regiment to be employed againſt the rebels in America, and he has obtained leave to go to London to make a tender of his ſervices there."

Sept. 25. Government has, we hear, contracted for 10,000 tuns of potatoes from England and Ireland to go to America, 3000 of which one potato merchant has engaged to furniſh them with.

A petition to the king is ſent over from the iſland of Grenada, praying that reconciliatory meaſures may take place between Great Britain and her colonies, as the effects of the diſpute are greatly felt in Grenada and the other Weſt India iſlands.

This morning orders were ſent down to Portſmouth, Plymouth, and the ſeveral dockyards, for the men to work double tides in order to repair the ſeveral men of war that are put into commiſſion, and are ordered to be got ready for ſailing with all expedition.

Extract of a letter from Barcelona, *Sept.* 6.

"They write from Alicant, of the 20th ult. that the night before general O'Reily, the admiral Caſtejon, and three other generals, had ſailed on board two frigates, under convoy of five men of war of the line, as it is ſaid, for Cadiz, where it is ſuppoſed theſe gentlemen will meet farther orders."

A correſpondent informs us, that an officer on half-pay applied to a noble lord, his friend, for a command in America, thinking it the likelieſt way for promotion; which the other diſſuaded him from for the preſent, adding, that he thought things were in a train of accommodation.

The army and fleet at Boſton have diſcretionary orders to winter wherever they ſhall think it moſt convenient and ſafe.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

HANOVER, Dec. 22, 1775.

ON *Monday* the 22d of *January* next, purſuant to the laſt will and teſtament of mr. *Francis Smith*, deceaſed, of *Hanover* county, will be ſold on the premiſes, a tract of land containing 1072 acres, lying in the county of *Louiſa*. The fertility of this ſoil, for corn, wheat, and tobacco, is ſo well known, as makes a deſcription unneceſſary; and its ſituation to church, courthouſe, and mill, is entirely convenient. There is a conſiderable quantity of wheat ſowed on the plantation; which is under good incloſures; and there is an overſeer's houſe, a quarter, and all neceſſary out-houſes for cropping. At the ſame time and place will be ſold the ſtock of horſes, cattle, ſheep, and hogs, the crop of corn and wheat, together with a varity of plantation utenſils.

And on *Monday* the 29th of *January* will be ſold on the ſaid deceaſed's plantation, in *Hanover* county, 30 choice *Virginia* born ſlaves amongſt which are ſeveral valuable tradeſmen and houſe ſervants, the houſehold and kitchen furniture, alſo the ſtock of horſes, cattle, ſheep, and hogs, with the crop of corn, wheat, oats, a large quantity of pine, cherry, black walnut, and birch plank, together with all kinds of plantation utenſils, and ſundry other articles too tedious to mention. At the ſame time and place will be ſold a tract of land in *King William* county, containing 108 acres, well timbered, and within four miles of *Hanover* town. Twelve months credit will be allowed the purchaſers for all ſums above 40s. upon giving bond and ſecurity, to carry intereſt from the date, if not punctually paid.

All perſons who have any demands againſt the eſtate are deſired to bring in their accounts, properly authenticated; and thoſe in arrears are moſt earneſtly requeſted to make payment, as ſoon as poſſible, or give bond for their reſpective balances.

THOMAS SMITH, executor.

To be RENTED for a term of YEARS,

THE well accuſtomed tavern on the road from *Hanover* courthouſe to *Hanover* town. The conveniencies of this place, for either a publick or private family, are very great, the dwelling-houſe having ſix rooms below ſtairs and two above, a kitchen, dairy, meat-houſe, quarter, blackſmith's ſhop, a very large barn and ſtable, with every other neceſſary for the immediate reception of a family. Any perſon inclinable to rent the ſaid place may know the terms by applying to the ſubſcriber, near the premiſes.

THOMAS SMITH.

WILLIAMSBURG, *Jan.* 1, 1776.

CONSIDERING the great rise in the price of *PAPER*, the high expense attending the transportation of it to this place from *Philadelphia*, and the difficulty there is to procure it almost on any terms, the *PRINTER* is reduced to the necessity of demanding half the year's subscription money from every new subscriber to his GAZETTE, and begs that those who owe him for the last 11 months (from *Feb.* 3, 1775, to *Dec.* 31) which is 11*s.* 6*d.* would send in their subscriptions, and those that subscribed later to pay in to *Dec.* 31st, at the rate of 12*d.* halfpeny per month, that he may begin *a new account*, this *NEW YEAR*, with all his customers, whom he shall endeavour to serve to the utmost of his abilities, and hopes to be able to furnish them always with pleasing intelligence, even in these boisterous times.

*** Those indebted to me, likewise, for ADVERTISEMENTS, BOOKS, STATIONERY, &c. will exceedingly oblige me by paying off their accounts; as I have some debts of my own to discharge, which I would willingly settle as soon as I am able.

I am the PUBLICK's obliged
And devoted servant,
ALEX. PURDIE.

SIX POUNDS REWARD.

STOLEN *from the subscriber, on* Tuesday *night the* 10*th of* October, *a dark bay (or brown) HORSE,* 10 *or* 11 *years old last spring, upwards of* 15 *hands high, his hind feet white, and has a few gray hairs in his forehead, paces, trots, and gallops, and when rode goes with pretty good spirit, has a hanging mane, little foretop, yellow nose, and short back, his tail when trimmed, which was very lately, was intended for a switch, but by the unskilfulness of the person who did it it was made almost as short as a long bob, the hoofs of his fore feet were broken on the inside, and he had on a pair of shoes about half worn, but if he has been much rode, it is very probable that one or both may be off by this time. Whoever takes up and secures both thief and horse, so that the thief be convicted, and the horse delivered to me at* Patuxent *iron works, or* William Reid *in* Fredericksburg, *shall receive the above reward, or* 20*s. for the horse only; but if the horse should be a great distance, reasonable charges will be allowed, by*

2‖ *JAMES RAWLINGS.*

STRAYED from the subscriber in *Southampton*, on the 5th ult. a BAY MARE two years old last spring, about 4 feet 6 inches high, has a long tail and hanging mane, one (or both) of her hind feet white, but is not branded; she was raised by *William Sikes* of *Sussex*. Whoever brings the said mare to me shall have 40 s. reward.

2‖ BEVERLY BOOTH.

COMMITTED to the jail of *Essex*, on suspicion of being a runaway, JOHN MAHANY, who says he was imported from *Corke* about five years ago, in a ship commanded by capt. *John Roberts*, and was sold at *Quantico* to one *William Steward* of *Pittsylvania*. He is a man of about 25 years of age, and about 5 feet 8 inches high. The owner (if any) is desired to take him away, and pay charges. JAMES EMERSON, jailer.

DECEMBER 18, 1775.

AT Malbro' *IRON WORKS, in* Frederick *county, in the colony of* Virginia, *is immediately wanted a sufficient number of hands to cut* 5000 *cords of wood. The cash will be paid for any part of the above quantity that may be contracted for, as soon as complied with.*

‖ *ISAAC ZANE.*

To be SOLD, on Thursday *the* 11*th instant* (January) *if fair, otherwise next fair day, at the plantation of the late mr.* James Burwell *in* King William,

ALL the *STOCKS* upon the said plantation, with the crops of *CORN, WHEAT, &c.* and *PLANTATION UTENSILS.* Credit till the 30th of *October* next will be allowed for all sums above 10*l.* the purchasers giving bond and security, and for all sums under ready money will be expected. (1)

WILLIAM RUSSELL, *deputy sheriff of York.*

TREASURY OFFICE, *December* 22, 1775.

PURSUANT to an act of General Assembly, and a resolution of Convention, I have appointed mr. *Bartholomew Dandridge* to assist in signing and mr. *William Rose* in filling up and numbering the treasury notes.

RO. C. NICHOLAS, treasurer.

GLOUCESTER, *December* 21, 1775.

I INTEND to leave the colony immediately, and to retnrn in a few weeks.

JOHN DIXON, jun.

RICHMOND, *December* 26, 1775.

RUN away, on *Sunday* the 3d instant, an *English* servant man, named RALPH CHILLINGSWORTH, of the middle stature, slim made, thin visaged, has had the smallpox, is very fond of spirituous liquors, a plaisterer by trade, and a very artful sensible fellow. He had on a good frieze coat, red cloth waistcoat, worsted stockings, strong *London* made shoes, white shirt, brown wig, which is rather too large for him, and a beaver hat, that has been dressed, after being some time wore. He has been seen, since he made his escape, selling some osnabrugs, and I hear purchased a gun, with which it is probable he will endeavour to get on board some of the men of war at *Norfolk*. Whoever conveys the said servant to me shall have 40 s. reward, but if he returns to his duty he will be received kindly.

RICHARD ADAMS.

TAKEN up in *Halifax, a black horse* about 6 years old, 4 feet 4 inches and a half high, a blaze in his face, his near fore foot white, a hanging mane and short switch tail, paces naturally, has a bell on, a hole a little above the off nostril, which appears to be the bite of a dog, and is branded on the near shoulder H. Posted, and appraised to 8l.

NATHANIEL BARKSDILL.

TAKEN up in the *Bull Pasture*, county of *Augusta*, a *dark bay mare* 4 years old last spring, about 13 hands high, has a few white hairs in her forehead, one or two white spots on her back, a hanging mane and switch tail, a mealy mouth and eyes, paces and trots, and is branded, or marked, on the near shoulder, with two strokes. Posted, and appraised to 6l.

‖ JOSEPH MALCOM.

TAKEN up in *Augusta*, a stray COW about 12 years old, with a black head and neck, her hind parts white, and her ears cropped. Posted, and appraised to 30s. ‖ HENRY M'CLUNG.

TAKEN up in the lower end of *Culpeper*, a *red brindled cow*, marked with a crop end swallow-fork in the right ear, or slit, and part of the under side of the ear taken off, in the left ear with a crop and slit.

2‖ WEDARD WEST.

TAKEN up near *Brook*'s gap, in *Augusta*, a *bay mare* 6 years old last spring, about 13 hands and a half high, is a natural pacer, and branded on the near shoulder HI in a piece; she has with her a young sucking mare colt. Posted, and appraised to 10l. ‖ JOHN THOMAS.

I INTEND *to leave the colony in a short time, and to return next summer.*

JAMES MILLER.

STRAYED or stolen from *Williamsburg*, about 5 weeks past, a middle-sized gray horse belonging to mr. *John Taylor*, quarter-master of the second regiment. He paces slow, trots and gallops well, and is branded on the near buttock E. P. Whoever brings him to my house in *Caroline*, or to capt. *Robert Anderson* in *Williamsburg*, shall be liberally rewarded.

EDMUND PENDLETON.

Dec. 23, 1775.

STOLEN from the subscriber's pasture, near *Williamsburg*, a *light bay mare*, 3 years old next spring, about 4 feet 4 inches high, has a star in her forehead a little larger than a dollar, both hind feet white, a hanging mane and switch tail, and paces naturally. Whoever brings her to me, in *Williamsburg*, shall have 20 s.

GABRIEL MAUPIN.

N. B. I will not be answerable for any horses that may get away for the future.

WILLIAMSBURG, *December* 22, 1775.

THE *surviving partners of mr.* John Prentis, *late manager of the trade under the firm of himself and co. earnestly request all persons indebted to the said partnership to pay their respective balances to mr.* Robert Prentis, *the present manager; and such who cannot possibly comply therewith will think it but reasonable to close their accounts, by giving bond and security to*

ROBERT PRENTIS, & co.

To be *SOLD*, on *Thursday* the 1st of *February*, at the town of *Manchester*, commonly called *Rocky Ridge*,

ABOUT 100 Virginia *born NEGROES, among whom are some female house servants, a carpenter, and shoemaker. Twelve months credit will be given, and bond with good security required of the purchasers, by*

4‖ *DAVID MEADE.*

TO BE SOLD,

A TRACT of land in *Albemarle* county, on *Mitchems* river, near *Rockfish*, containing 228 acres, whereon is a very good grist mill, also a fulling mill, with all tools and conveniencies to carry on the fulling trade. There is a very plantation, upon which is a dwelling-house 50 feet long ceiled with plank, very neat, an eight foot shed, a good cellar, a barn 52 feet long and 22 wide, a very good shop, wherein is a loom and tacklings, all convenient outhouses, an orchard of 150 bearing apple trees. The land is exceedingly fine, being chiefly low grounds; and I will take one half the value of it money in negroes. Any person inclining to purchase may know the terms by applying to me living on the premises, on the *Augusta* road, 14 miles above the town of *Charlottesville*. SAMUEL STOCKTON.

To be SOLD under a power of attorney from mr. John Baylor,

ABOUT 1000 acres of land in the county of *Orange*, to be laid off on the upper part of a tract whereon *John Hawkins* lives. The land in general is very good, and contains a considerable quantity of valuable low ground. The terms may be known by applying to mr. *James Newman*, near the premises, or to the subscriber, in the county of *Caroline*. (tf)

EDMUND PENDLETON. jun.

N. B. I am also empowered to receive and pay mr. *Baylor*'s debts, but I am apprehensive it will not be in my power to do either, and therefore hope his creditors will not be impatient or uneasy.

ARTICLES of Intelligence, Essays, Advertisements, *&c.* are thankfully received for this Paper, the Price of which is 12*s.* 6*d.* per Annum; Advertisements inserted as usual. PRINTING WORK done with Care and Expedition, and on reasonable Terms.

FRIDAY, January 5, 1775. SUPPLEMENT. No. 49.

AN ORDINANCE *for appointing* SHERIFFS.

WHEREAS by an act of Aſſembly made in the 22d year of the reign of his late majeſty king George II. entitled *An act preſcribing the method of appointing ſheriffs, and for limiting the time of their continuance in office, and directing their duty therein*, it is, among other things, enacted, "that every county court of this dominion ſhall annually, between the laſt "day of June and the laſt day of Auguſt, "preſent to the governour, or commander "er in chief of this colony for the time "being, a liſt or recommendation of "three perſons named in the commiſſion "of the peace for their county, one of "which perſons ſo recommended ſhall "thereupon be commiſſioned by the ſaid "governour or commander in chief to "execute the office of ſheriff of that "county for the next enſuing year;" and whereas John earl of Dunmore, his majeſty's lieutenant and governour general of this colony, hath withdrawn himſelf from the ſeat of his government, and commenced hoſtilities againſt the good people of this colony, hath alſo, by his proclamation, declared martial law to be in force in the colony, and refuſeth to grant commiſſions for executing the office of ſheriffs, according to the directions of the ſaid recited act, whereby juſtice is and may be greatly delayed and hindered:

For remedy whereof, BE IT ORDAINED, *by the delegates and repreſentatives of the ſeveral counties and corporations within this colony in the preſent General Convention, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the ſame*, that upon the expiration of the office of ſheriff of any county in this colony, the court of ſuch county, inſtead of recommending three perſons to the governour or commander in chief, to be by him commiſſioned to the office of ſheriff, ſhall, and they are hereby empowered and required to nominate and appoint one of the perſons named in the commiſſion of the peace for their county to execute the office of ſheriff of their ſaid county for one year; and the perſon ſo nominated and appointed ſhall have all the powers and authorities, and ſhall perform and execute the ſaid office in as full and ample manner, as if appointed by commiſſion from the governour or commander in chief of this colony, according to the direction of the ſaid recited act. And the perſon ſo nominated and appointed, before he enters upon his office, ſhall take the oath of office, and enter into bonds with ſufficient ſecurity, agreeable to the laws now in force. And if any perſon ſhall refuſe to accept the ſaid office, the court ſhall proceed to appoint another in the room of the perſon ſo refuſing, who ſhall give the like bonds and ſecurity, and take the oath of office as aforeſaid.

PROVIDED *always*, that ſo ſoon as the executive powers of government in this colony are reſtored to their proper channel, and other ſheriffs ſhall be appointed purſuant to the ſaid act of Aſſembly, that the perſons who may be appointed to the office of ſheriff by the county courts in manner aforeſaid ſhall ceaſe to execute the ſaid office, and the powers hereby given ſhall be revoked.

IN CONVENTION, December 22, 1775.

RESOLVED unanimouſly, *that the thanks of this Convention are juſtly due to the brave officers, gentlemen volunteers, and ſoldiers of North Carolina, as well as to our brethren of that province in general, for their prompt and generous aid in defence of our common rights, againſt the enemies to America, and of the Britiſh conſtitution.*

Reſolved, *that no perſon be allowed to make repriſal on the property of lord Dunmore, in this colony, for their property ſeized by him, or the navy, without the order of this Convention.*

WATERTOWN, *December* 11.

WE have juſt received certain intelligence, that on Saturday laſt capt. Manly, of the Lee privateer, took and carried into Beverly a large ſhip of 300 tuns burthen (mounted with two double fortified 6 pounders, and ſix blunderbuſſes, with 18 men before the maſt) bound from London for the miniſterial army at Boſton, laden with coals and proviſions, conſiſting chiefly of porter, cheeſe, and 40 live hogs, 30 more having died on the paſſage. Although fuel and the above articles are no rarity to the army of the united colonies, yet ſo far as they are diſtreſſing to their enemies, ſo far it muſt be acknowledged they are an advantage to us. The above ſhip had 7 weeks paſſage, and brought papers to the 16th of October; which, together with the letters, we are informed the captain hove overboard after he was taken,

The ſame day capt. Manly alſo took and carried in there a brig of about 150 tuns burthen, from Antigua for Boſton (conſigned to one Brimer, for the uſe of the miniſterial navy) laden with about 130 puncheons of rum, beſides 100 caſes of gin, ſome cocoa, and a caſk of oranges, to pleaſe the delicate appetite of my lord HOWE! which however may poſſibly be more acceptable to our army than any other proviſion, ſaving a farther meſs or two for the CONGRESS, which has not a very craving appetite.

Laſt Saturday ſe'nnight a ſhip from Scotland, bound to Boſton, laden with about 350 chaldrons of coal, and a quantity of bale goods, taken by capt. Manly, was carried into Salem. She is about 200 tuns burthen, and is almoſt a new ſhip.

NEWPORT, *December* 11.

ABOUT 1 o'clock yeſterday morning the bomb brig, a ſchooner, and 2 or 3 armed ſloops, left this harbour, went to Conanicut and landed upwards of 200 marines, ſailors, and negroes, at the Eaſt ferry, marched in three diviſions immediately over to the Weſt ferry, and ſet the ſeveral houſes on fire which were near the ferry-place, then retreated back, ſetting fire to almoſt every houſe on each ſide the road, from the Weſt to the Eaſt ferry, and ſeveral houſes and barns ſome diſtance on the N. and S. ſide of the road; driving out the women and children, ſwearing they ſhould be burnt in the houſe if they did not immediately turn out. About 20 houſes were conſumed, all of which were plundered of beds, wearing apparel, and ſuch houſehold furniture as could be conveniently carried off. The above veſſels brought off about 30 head of oxen, a few ſheep and hogs, moſt of which they killed before they took them on board. They left Conanicut yeſterday, and came to this harbour again about noon.

PHILADELPHIA, *Dec.* 20.

BY a letter from col. Arnold, dated Nov. 20th, we learn that he was at Point au Tremble, on the Quebeck ſide of the river; that he had received advice that col. Maclean was preparing to ſally out, and that his men were in good ſpirits, and wiſhing for it; that the officers of government in Quebeck had removed their effects on board the veſſels, and permitted none of them to ſail, from which it is concluded that they will make no great defence.

We are informed that a camp for 20,000 French troops is marked out at Hiſpaniola, and that 7000 of them are hourly expected.

From Dominica, we learn that a gentleman had arrived there from Martinique, who brought intelligence of ſeveral thouſand French troops being already arrived at that iſland, Guadaloupe, &c. and that more were daily expected.

From St. Euſtatia, we have an undoubted account of the arrival of 2500 men at Martiniço, and 1800 men at Guadaloupe. They are part of a reinforcement of 10,000 men, ordered out for thoſe iſlands; there are alſo 4000 ordered out for St. Domingo, ſome of which are arrived."

Accounts have been received, which were credited in the camp, of the arrival of a ſloop, ſuppoſed to be the Macaroni of Connecticut, and a French ſhip in company, to the eaſtward of Cambridge, with powder; the former ſaid to have 12 tuns, and the latter 40 on board, a confirmation of which was impatiently expected when theſe advices came away.

Extract of a letter from New York, *Dec.* 16.

"Captain Vandeput, of the Aſia, has ſhown his orders to ſome of the principal inhabitants here; which are, to ſeize all veſſels going in or out, the proviſions and all veſſels to be ſent to Boſton. He has in conſequence, already taken a brig belonging to mr. Beach, with a load of ſalt, from Liſbon, or St. Ubes; and notwithſtanding ſhe now leaks intolerably, and has already pumped out near one quarter of her ſalt, yet ſhe is going to Boſton."

By letters from general Schuyler, we learn that col. Eaſton had taken the veſſels bound for Montreal to Quebeck, under the command of Carleton of Preſcot. That Carleton, with four or five Canadians, had landed from the fleet, and were making the beſt of their way to Quebeck in the dreſs of peaſants. That the brig Gaſpee, together with 7 ſloops and ſchooners which were taken as above, had on board (who are alſo taken) brigadier-general Preſcot; capt. William Dunbar, major of brigade; capt. William Gamble, quartermaſter-general; captains Anſtruther, Swan, Crawford, and Harris; lieutenant Cleveland; enſigns Gamble, Leſlie, and M'Donald; dr. Beaumont; and 150 privates, moſt of them of the 26th regiment and the artillery. There were on board the veſſels two cannon of 9, and two of 6 pounders, 30 cannon cartridges, and 45 ball, 3 barrels of powder, 2380 muſket cartridges, 8 cheſts of arms, 200 pair of ſhoes, a quantity of intrenching tools, 700 barrels of flour, 20 of biſcuit, 675 barrels of beef, and 376 firkins of butter. We farther learn, that col. Allen and his party, who were taken priſoners near Montreal, are actually ſent to England in irons, by major Preſcot; and that general Montgomery, with a ſtrong detachment, was to leave Montreal on the 25th of November, to reinforce colonel Arnold at Quebeck.

Extract of a letter from general Schuyler, *dated* Albany, *December* 14.

"The Indians delivered us a ſpeech on the 12th, in which they related the ſubſtance of all the conferences col. Johnſon had with them the laſt ſummer, concluding with that at Montreal, where he delivered to each of the Canadian tribes a war belt and the hatchet, who accepted it; after which they were invited to *feaſt on a Boſtonian and drink his blood.* An ox being roaſted for the purpoſe, and a pipe of wine given to drink, the war ſong was ſung. One of the chiefs of the Six Nations, that attended at that conference, accepted a very large black war belt with a hatchet depictured in it; but would neither eat, nor drink, nor ſing the war ſong. This famous belt they have delivered up, and we have now a full proof that the miniſterial ſervants have attempted to engage the ſavages againſt us."

Dec. 23. Advices from Cambridge, of the 11th inſtant, are, that all the ſtores taken out of the ordnance ſhip had been brought ſafe to the camp, and diffuſed a general animation through the whole army.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Cambridge, *to his friend at* Newhaven, *Dec.* 11.

"Yeſterday about 600 of the regulars on Bunker's hill demoliſhed their advanced works on this ſide the cauſeway. Various are the conjectures of this manœuvre. Some think they are about to abandon the hill, and take poſſeſſion of Dorcheſter point; others think, that as thoſe advanced works were of little advantage to them in making a defence againſt an attack, they did not think them worth the trouble of guarding; others imagine they will all retire to Boſton, and remain there during the winter; and others, that they have done it to lull us into ſecurity, and intend to make an attack that way. My opinion is, that they have no great inclination for fighting at preſent, and will be content if they can defend themſelves through the winter. I imagine ſome time this week we ſhall have ſome firing, as Litchmore's point is to be fortified in a day or two."

WILLIAMSBURG, *January* 5.

A letter from Cols. Howe *and* Woodford *to the Hon. the Preſident of the Convention, dated* NORFOLK, 10 *o'clock at night, Jan.* 1, 1776.

BETWEEN 3 and 4 o'clock a ſevere cannonade began from all the ſhipping, under cover of which they landed ſmall parties, and ſet fire to the houſes on the wharves. The wind favoured their deſign, and we believe the flames will become general. In the confuſion which they ſuppoſed would enſue, they frequently attempted to land; but this, by the bravery of our officers and men, we have hitherto prevented, with only a few men wounded on our ſide, and we perſuade ourſelves with a good deal of loſs on theirs. Their efforts, and our oppoſition, ſtill continue. We have ſtationed ourſelves in ſuch a manner as will, we believe, render every thing but burning the houſes ineffectual. We wait with impatience your farther orders, and are reſpectfully, &c.

Extract of a Letter from col. *Howe*, to the Preſident of the Convention, *Jan.* 2.

"*The burning of the town has made ſeveral avenues, which yeſterday they had not, ſo that they may now fire with greater effect. The tide is now riſing, and we expect at high water another cannonade. I have only to wiſh it may be as ineffectual as the laſt; for we have not one man killed, and but a few wounded. I cannot enter into the melancholy conſideration of the women and children running through a crowd of ſhot to get out of the town, ſome of them with children at their breaſt. A few have, I hear, been killed. Does it not call for vengeance, both from God and man! It is but juſtice to inform you, that I had the pleaſure to find every officer ready to execute orders at a moment's warning, and that the men behaved with ſteadineſs and ſpirit. Col. Stevens went down at my command, and headed ſome men near the water, where he engaged a party who had landed, with the ſpirit and conduct of a good officer. Of my friend col. Woodford, it is almoſt needleſs to ſpeak; but I cannot avoid expreſſing, that I received from him every aſſiſtance which conduct and ſpirit could give me.*"

Extract of a letter from col. *Elliott*, to col. *Patrick Henry*, dated *Hampton*, Jan 5, 1776.

"*Incloſed you have the copy of a letter from col. Woodford to me, dated 3 o'clock yeſterday, ſince which a ſnow and two ſmall veſſels have gone up to Norfolk. She appeared to have a great many men on board, but was not a veſſel of war. There are three others (one a brig) in the bay, this morning coming up, which capt. Barron has juſt gone to look after. Some little time after my expreſs left Norfolk, with the incloſed, a very heavy firing began, and continued chief part of the night; and a conſiderable fire was diſcovered there about dark, which continued burning many hours.*"

NORFOLK, Jan. 4, 1776, 3 o'clock P. M.

"*About a quarter paſt 3 on Monday afternoon the whole fleet began a heavy cannonade, which laſted 7 hours, without any intermiſſion, and indeed continued, off and on, till laſt night, ſince which we have been tolerably quiet. Under the fire of their ſhips, they landed in many places, and ſet fire to the houſes on the wharves. In theſe attempts, many of them, we are certain, were killed, and never failed being repulſed by our people. We had not a man killed, and only 5 or 6 wounded, one ſuppoſed mortally; and two or three women and children are ſaid to be killed. Providence certainly interfered in our favour, or more lives muſt have been loſt. They once landed and got into the ſtreets with field-pieces, but were beat back with loſs, and no execution done by their fire. Nine tenths of the town are deſtroyed, but the fire is now out.*"

This morning lieut. Batut and 5 grenadiers of the 14th regiment, who were wounded at the Great Bridge, with 17 Tories, and 11 negroes, arrived in town, under a ſtrong guard, from Norfolk. The wounded ſoldiers are ſent to the hoſpital, moſt of the Tories and negroes lodged in the publick jail, and lieut. Batut, with a few others, admitted on their parole.

Yeſterday afternoon an expreſs arrived from York, with intelligence that two top-maſt veſſels, and one of a ſmaller ſize, had hove in ſight, which were ſuſpected to be two men of war and a tender, coming up to cannonade that town; upon which capt. Gibſon, with his Weſt Auguſta boys, were immediately ordered to reinforce the troops ſtationed there, and prevent any of Dunmore's hell-hounds from landing to ſet fire to the houſes. Many gentlemen volunteers likewiſe went from this city, to aſſiſt their brethern of York; and our worthy delegates, then ſitting in Convention, formed themſelves under that old intrepid warriour, col. Andrew Lewis, for the protection of the city. Capt. Gibſon had marched but a little diſtance from town, when he was met by col. Henry, from York, with the agreeable intelligence, that the two large veſſels were, one a proviſion veſſel from Corke, deep laden with beef, butter, potatoes, &c. the other from the Grenades, loaded with rum, ſugar, and ſeveral other neceſſaries, and the ſmall veſſel the brave capt. Barron, carrying them up the river, out of the reach of the men of war.

*** *Doctor* POPE's *reply to Mr.* SNEAD, *and ſundry other pieces coming too late for this week's paper, muſt be deferred till next week, when they will moſt aſſuredly have places.*

Mr. PURDIE,

I HOPE our countrymen will not be at all diſpirited at the deſtruction of Norfolk, but rather rejoice that half the miſchief our enemies can do us is done already. They have deſtroyed one of the firſt towns in America, and the only one (except 2 or 3) in Virginia, which carried on any thing like a trade. We are only ſharing part of the ſufferings of our American brethren, and can now glory in having received one of the keeneſt ſtrokes of the enemy, without flinching. They have done their worſt, and to no other purpoſe than to harden our ſoldiers, and learn them to bear, without diſmay, all the moſt formidable operations of a war carried on by a powerful and cruel enemy; to no other purpoſe than to give the world ſpecimens of Britiſh cruelty, and American fortitude, unleſs it be to force us to lay aſide that childiſh fondneſs for Britain, and that fooliſh tame dependence on her. We had born ſo long with the oppreſſion of an ungenerous reſtriction of our trade, of a reſtriction, in ſome inſtances, which ſeemed calculated merely as badges of our ſubjection, and had been contented ſo long with barely refuſing to purchaſe commodities which they had taxed for the purpoſe of raiſing a revenue in America, that our patience and moderation ſerved but to encourage them to proceed to greater lengths. To greater lengths they have proceeded, as far as the proudeſt tyrant's luſt of depotiſm, ſtimulated by cruelty, a rancorous malice, and an infernal ſpirit of revenge, could hurry them. How ſunk is Britain! Could not Britons venture to wage war with America till they were told that Americans were cowards, till they had diſarmed them, or had, as they thought, put it out of their power to procure arms, nor even then without the aſſiſtance of Roman Catholicks and Indians, and endeavouring to raiſe amongſt us a domeſtick enemy? Was this like a brave and generous nation! If they were loſt to all the feelings of Britons, for men contending for the ſupport of the Britiſh conſtitution, if they were determined to conquer America, why did they not attempt it like Britons? Why meanly run about to the different powers of Europe, entreating them not to aſſiſt us? Why make uſe of every baſe and inhuman ſtratagem, and wage a ſavage war unknown amongſt civilized nations? Surely whoever has heard of Carleton's, Connolly's, and Dunmore's plots againſt us, cannot but allow that they muſt have been authoriſed by a higher power; and whoever believes this cannot but wish to be inſtantly and for ever removed from under ſuch a power, and to be guarded moſt effectually againſt it. Moſt freely would I *cut the Gordian knot* which has hitherto ſo ſtrongly bound us to Britain, and call on France and Spain for aſſiſtance againſt an enemy who ſeem bent on our deſtruction; but who bleſſed be the God of Hotts, have been baffled in moſt of their attempts againſt us, been chaſtiſed in all, and have made many attacks upon us without being able to kill a ſingle man.

AN AMERICAN.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE *ſloop* Chriſtian, *burthen about* 3500 *buſhels, will ſail for the* Weſt Indies, *in three weeks, from* Hampton. *Paſſengers will apply on board ſaid veſſel, or to*

ARCHIBALD & JAMES GOVAN. (2)

To be SOLD before Robert Nicolſon's *ſtore, on* Tueſday *the* 10*th inſtant*,

A GREAT variety of cabinet-makers tools, mohogany, walnut, and pine plank, likewiſe new walnut book-caſes, deſks, tables, &c. belonging to the eſtate of mr. *Peter Scott*, deceaſed. Six months credit will be allowed for all ſums above 5l. the purchaſers giving bond with good ſecurity.

All perſons indebted to the ſaid eſtate, by bond or open account, are requeſted to pay off as ſoon as poſſible; and thoſe to whom the eſtate are indebted are deſired to call and receive payment, from

ALEXANDER CRAIG, } executors.
ROBERT NICOLSON, }

THE ſhip *Rockingham*, *Richard Hopper* maſter, now lying in *Nanſemond* river, will ſail for *Glaſgow* the firſt week in *February*. The ſhip goes in baliaſt, and will be exceedingly well fitted for paſſengers. For paſſage, apply to the maſter on board ſaid ſhip; to *Gibſon*, *Donaldſon*, and *Hamilton*, at *Suffolk*; or to meſſ. *Dixon* and *Hunter*, in *Williamſburg*.

N. B. The ſhip *Rockingham* is a new veſſel, and well found.

To be HIRED,

A NEGRO CARPENTER, *who has ſerved a regular apprenticeſhip to a good workman.* *B. WELDON.*